MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether the *rajapatha* is one that must be improved ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : No.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know the reason why the Government consider that the *rajapatha* need not be improved ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : It is a steep foot-path The ruling gardient is one in eight. Also it is very close to another road.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Is it a *rajapatha* or a foot-path ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : It is a foot-path.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : May I know whether there is any idea of converting it into a cart road ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : There is no idea. It is very close to a metalled road.

Rubber Plantations.

83. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there are rubber plantations under the management of the Forest Department ;

(*b*) how many acres of rubber plantations there are like this ;

(*c*) whether they are being tapped at present ;

(*d*) how many pounds of rubber are being obtained from the above plantations ; and

(*e*) the income derived out of it towards the revenue for the Forest Department ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 105 acres.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) In view of the answer to part (*c*), the question does not arise.

(*e*) Last year the Forest Department realised S. Rs. 894-11-7 by the sale of rubber quota allotted to the Department.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether there is any proposal from the Industries Department to the effect that the Rubber Plantations under the Forest Department must be handed over to the Industries Department for tapping rubber ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether that proposal was accepted by Government ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : It is under consideration.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) : May I know how old these plantations are ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : I claim notice.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) : May I know whether Government consider the sale of the quota more profitable than tapping and selling rubber ?

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MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government do not consider tapping to be more profitable.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): May I know the reason why the Government do not consider it to be more profitable?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Tapping rubber means investment of some more money. It is considered more profitable to sell the quota.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): The cost of tapping is also taken into account in fixing the sale price. That will bring in more revenue.

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government do not consider it to be so.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): If the cost of tapping is also included in the sale price, will not the net profit derived be more than what can be obtained by the sale of the quota?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government do not consider so.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Have they ascertained the price of rubber?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Of course.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Is it the member's view that no tapping could be conducted?

PRESIDENT: That is a matter of opinion.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): May I know whether all these 105 acres are situated in one place?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): They are at Malayattur and Konni.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): May I know whether the sum of Rs. 894 realised last year was realised at a uniform rate from both places?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): It is one anna and ten pies per pound at Malayattur and one anna and eight pies at Konni.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): What is the reason for the difference?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): It was sold in public auction, and therefore there is difference.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): In answer to part (*e*), it is stated that Rs. 894-11-7 have been realised last year. Is that the income derived from 105 acres at Malayattur?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): It is derived both from Malayattur and Konni.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): What is the average income derived in the State from rubber plantations per acre?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

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MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*) : May I know whether tenders were invited for the sale of quota ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I believe it was sold in auction.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): What is the basis of the answer that they were sold in auction ? It is so well known that the quota was not sold in auction. So I want to know from the member what is the basis for his informatirn ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) · The information is based on the Conservator's report.

Property sold for arrears of tax.

84. *MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the amount realised by the sale of properties for arrears of land tax for the years 1108 and 1109 in the Ambalapuzha taluk ;

(*b*) the extent of lands sold for the purpose in those years ;

(*c*) in how many cases the sale amount with commission was deposited and sale set aside in those two years;

(*d*) which taluk in the State stands first in the matter of collecton of land tax in the year 1109, which stands last and the reason for the same ;

(*e*) the amount of arrears in land tax to be collected in the years 1108 and 1109 in the Ambalapuzha taluk ; and

(*f*) which of the *pakuthies* in the taluk stands first in the matter of collection of land tax in the year 1109 and which stands last ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*):

	1108.	*1109.*
(*a*) Rs.	2,210-14-7.	4,798-27-12.
(*b*) 29 acres 14 cents.		75 acres 46 cents.
(*c*) 460.		788.

(*d*) Shencotta taluk stands first and Kottayam last.

The fall in the percentage of collection in Kottayam taluk is apparently due to the general economic depression and the extension of time granted for payment of tax on *Punja* and *Kayal* lands in Kuttanad up to the 15th Chingam and 15th Thulam 1110.

(*e*) 1108—Rs. 18,969-8-10.
1109—Rs. 66,707-3- 4.

(*f*) Aryad South *pakuthi* stands first and Pulinkunnu *pakuthi* last.

Arrears of land-tax in certain taluks.

85. *MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): Will the Government be pleased to state the following particulars with respect to each of the taluks of Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli and Mavelikara for each of the years 1107, 1108 and 1109 :

(*a*) the land-tax that fell in arrears ;

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